

Subject: German gold coinage;
U.S. 1804 dollar--altered date;
U.S. 1845 quarter eagle, mint mark "O"

Sternberg, William H.
[152 W 42nd St., NYC]

1934-1936

WILLIAM H. STERNBERG
PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT
152 WEST 42ND STREET
NEW YORK CITY
WISCONSIN 7-1810
MEDALLION 3-7963

October 27th, 1934.

The Curator,
American Numismatic Society,
155th Street and Broadway,
New York, N. Y.

Dear Sir:-

Will you be good enough to inform me, if possible, respecting the gold coinage of Germany:-

- 1 - Was there any gold coinage since the overthrow of the empire.
- 2 - What was the last year of coinage of 20-mark pieces.
- 3 - The quantity coined during the last year.
- 4 - The number of 20-mark pieces coined during 1914 - the beginning of the World War.

Would the price of \$12.00 for a gold 20-mark piece of Germany, dated 1914, and bearing the bust of Kaiser Wilhelm, be a reasonable one, in the light of world war history.

Thanking you for your courtesy, I beg to remain

Very truly yours,

W. H. Sternberg

WHS/JES

1914 1002 1070
1915 1268 015
1916 2011
3,876,849

October 31, 1934.

Mr. William H. Sternberg
152 W. 42nd Street
New York City.

Dear Mr. Sternberg:

In reply to your letter concerning recent German gold coins will say this. In looking through the mint reports I can find no evidence that any gold has been struck by the Republic. The number of 20 mark pieces coined in 1914 was 3,876,849. How many are in existence today I would not attempt to hazard a guess. I think most of the issue has gone the way of most other recent gold. Mint reports also state that 1012 ten mark pieces were struck in 1914. 1,268,055 twenty mark pieces were struck in 1915. Then the mint reports bunch the years 1916-1921 stating that 2011 were struck between those years. The probability is that they were struck in 1916.

The price of \$12.00 for a gold 20 mark piece of 1914 on first thought strikes me high, but I am inclined to think you would have great difficulty in trying to get another.

Very truly yours,

HW:JG

Curator

WILLIAM H. STERNBERG

PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT

152 WEST 42ND STREET

NEW YORK CITY

TELEPHONES: WISCONSIN 7-1810

LONGACRE 5-8243

January 19th, 1935.

Curator,
American Numismatic Society,
Broadway and 155th Street,
New York, N. Y.

Dear Sir:-

Has the museum any record respecting the number of "greenbacks," series of 1928, \$1.00 certificates bearing the signatures of Woodin-Woods, placed in circulation? Is this issue of more than average interest?

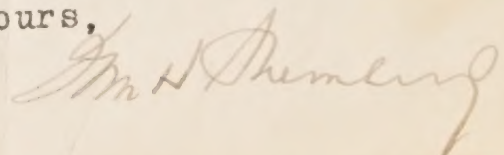
Reference is made to the Journal of July 1915, in which appears an article by Harry F. Williams, on "Gold Coinage of Latin America." On page 86 thereof, under gold coinage of Guatemala, "3rd Type, 1874-1877 (5 pesos);" above this item appears "2nd Type "B" 1869 (4,8,16, also 5, 10, 20 pesos)".

In connection with the 5 pesos minted only during 1869 and 1874-1877, as Mr. Williams states in the above quotations, Morgenthau & Company at its auction of June 14th, 1934, which I attended, sold a 5 pesos piece of 1872; and in its catalogue covering an auction to be held February 12th and 13th, page 19, again appears a 5 pesos piece of Guatemala to be sold bearing date of 1872, bearing head of Republic, and is listed as of the 3rd type minted.

Can you shed some light on this apparent inconsistency as to the date of mintage of the 3rd type of 5 pesos?

Is the 20-mark, gold, of 1888, Germany, of more than average interest? I have a specimen bearing the head of Kaiser Frederick and, I understand, there were two other issues of 20marks, gold, the same year, the 1st issue bearing the head of Kaiser Wilhelm I and the 3rd issue of the year with the head of Kaiser Wilhelm II.

Sincerely yours,



WHS/JES

- 1st type head of cannon Rev wreath
2 type " " " " Rev ammo.
3 type head of Republican Rev ammo
-

January 28, 1935.

Mr. William H. Sternberg
152 West 42nd Street
New York City.

Dear Mr. Sternberg:

Please pardon the delay in answering your letter as I was away several days at the time it came. We have absolutely no records up here concerning paper money. The type three of Guatemala that seems to be bothering you I think can safely be said to have started in 1872 on account of that date being found on certain pieces. You must remember this about Williams' articles. He was the first to actually try to chronicle Latin American gold and he had extreme difficulty in getting information from South American countries. About the only material he had to work on was the pieces he actually saw or the references found in the few books and sale catalogues that mentioned South American gold. If he had lived longer he would have gotten out further information. Since that article was printed in the Journal various dates and types he knew nothing about have come to light. In fact I think a catalogue that he made, typewritten on loose pages, which we have in our library contains some information not in the printed form.

The 20 Mark gold of 1888 of Germany is always interesting but not especially rare, as the pieces come showing the three emperors who ruled that year. The reason they are not rare was because countless Germans saved these pieces because of their historical interest and the fact that they thought they might be rare.

Very truly yours,

HW:JG

Curator

C---O---P---Y

November 10, 1935.

Dear Mr. Sternberg;-

I am enclosing two pencil rubbings of the 1804 Silver Dollar I was telling you about. I have been in contact with the owner again, and, insofar as he has a couple of other people coming to see the coin, he is not agreeable, at present, to let the coin leave his hands. As I would like to be in a position to compete with these other prospective purchasers, altho I do not think they are capable of ascertaining their genuineness, I would deeply appreciate your seeing whether anything more concrete can be learned from these pencil rubbings.

The date on this coin is very clear and shows absolutely no signs of having been altered --- if it is an altered date, it is an exceedingly clever one. There is one outstanding peculiarity--the "T" of liberty has only one side to its base. The letter "A" of America on the reverse, is opposite, or between, the "TY" of Liberty on the Obverse. You will note that the star is not particularly close to the "Y" in Liberty. I have taken two pencil rubbings of the same coin, for a double comparison (as pencil rubbings sometimes are not too accurate)

Thank you, I hope you can enlighten me somewhat.

Sincerely yours,



WILLIAM H. STERNBERG

PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT

152 WEST 42ND STREET

NEW YORK CITY

WISCONSIN 7-1810
MEDALLION 3-7963

November 12th, 1935.

Howland Wood, Esq.,
Curator,
American Numismatic Society,
Broadway and 156th S treet,
City.

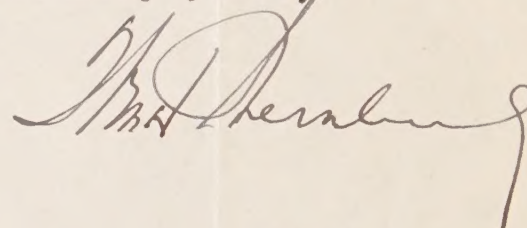
Dear Mr. Wood:-

In further reference to our telephone conversation of the other day, respecting the "find" of a silver dollar of the year 1804, by an out-of-town friend of mine, I beg to enclose herein a copy of letter just received from this party, together with two sets of pencil tracings of the dollar.

With this additional data perhaps you can come to a definite conclusion respecting the genuineness of the coin in question.

Thanking you for your co-operation, I am

Cordially yours,



WHS/JES
2 incls.

Handwritten note: Hamilton Typewriter #181 has no l/p 1802

November 13, 1935.

Mr. William H. Sternberg
152 W. 42nd St.
New York City.

Dear Mr. Sternberg:

The rubbing of the 1804 dollar is sufficiently good for me to say right off that it is an altered date. The defective base to the T is positive identification that it was originally an 1802 dollar as this is a well known variety. It is in Haseltine's "Type Tables" No. 181, or No. 6 for 1802.

Very truly yours,

HW:JG

Curator

WILLIAM H. STERNBERG

PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT

152 WEST 42ND STREET

NEW YORK CITY

WISCONSIN 7-1810

MEDALLION 3-7963

August 3rd, 1936.

American Numismatic Society,
Broadway at 155th Street,
New York, N. Y.

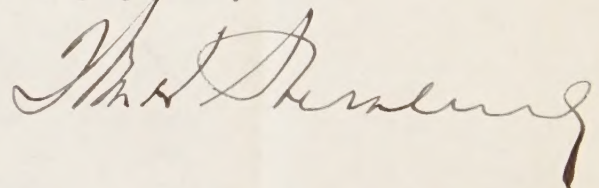
Gentlemen;-

I have in my possession a quarter eagle of
the year 1845 and mint marked "O".

Finding no record of the mintage at New Orleans
of the above date in available reference books, I wrote to the
Director of the Mint at Washington and the reply, received
to-day, states, in part: "No quarter eagles were executed at
the Mint in New Orleans in 1844 or 1845."

In view of the above situation, can the Curator
at the museum throw some light on the situation.

Sincerely yours,



WHS/JES

August 4, 1936

Mr. William H. Sternberg,
152 West 42nd St.
New York, N. Y.

Dear Mr. Sternberg:

Although the Mint has no record of quarter eagles struck at the New Orleans Mint in 1845, nevertheless there are pieces known. I think they bring up to around \$50.

The possible reason for this may be that although dies were sent to the New Orleans Mint dated 1845 none were struck during that year but they may have gotten an order to strike gold early in 1846 and used the dies they had on hand. In those days they did not have to return the dies at the beginning of the following years and they were also not over-particular in those days about using the dies dated the year the coins were struck.

This has been proved a number of times with the cents, half dimes and other pieces.

Very truly yours,

Curator

HW ks